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OLC 73-0227

14 March 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Current Intelligence Briefing of the House Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs on 14 March 1973.

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1. John Maury together with [] OCI, and accompanied by [] met with the Inter-American Affairs Subcommittee on 14 March. The meeting lasted from 1415 hours until 1635 hours. The discussion was at the Secret level. No transcript was taken. [] background notes are available in OCI files.

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2. Present for all or part of the session were:

Dante B. Fascell (D., Fla.), Chairman
Abraham Kazen, Jr. (D., Tex.)
Benjamin S. Rosenthal (D., N.Y.)
Michael Harrington (D., Mass.)
William S. Mailliard (R., Calif.)
Peter H. B. Frelinghuysen (R., N.J.)
Charles W. Whalen, Jr. (R., Ohio)

3. Present from the Subcommittee staff were:

Robert Michael Finley
Bernadette Jenkins

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4. The Chairman opened the meeting and had Mr. Maury introduce the Agency representatives. The Chairman agreed that [] would present those matters which appeared to have some priority from an intelligence point of view and then open the meeting for general questioning by the members. [] led off the briefing covering the following areas in broad outline:

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- a. Cuban diplomatic stance and subversion in Latin America and third country areas;
- b. Black power in the Caribbean;
- c. Soviet activities in Latin America; and
- d. Chinese activities in Latin America.

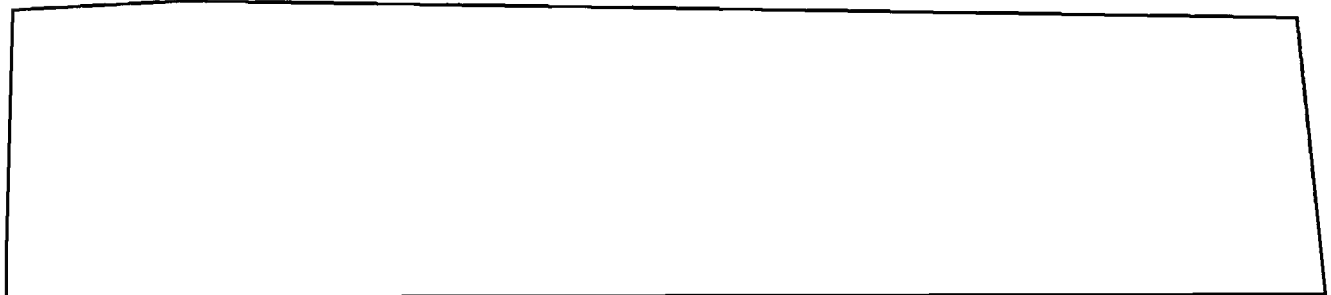
5. At this point in the meeting Chairman Fascell noted that more than a quorum of the Subcommittee was present and took a formal vote closing the meeting for executive session in keeping with the new rules of procedure. Later in the meeting the Chairman also took a formal vote to close tomorrow morning's session when the Subcommittee will be meeting with Ambassador McClintock who will be reporting on Venezuela. Although Chairman Fascell observed the formality of the two votes, he conducted the meeting otherwise in a relaxed, informal and friendly manner.

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6. Representative Harrington opened the questioning by asking [] for an outline from our point of view of the American policy and initiative in the Western Hemisphere to which Mr. Maury responded that this was outside our charter and the agreed scope of the present meeting. Mr. Maury was backed up by Chairman Fascell. In later attempts by Mr. Harrington into these same areas, [] responded with very general comment and easy reminders to Mr. Harrington that such questions are properly in the province of State Department representatives.

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8. Chairman Fascell observed that the crisis handling of Latin American affairs has been extremely difficult particularly from the point of view of the responsible congressman. He cannot see why all in Congress

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10. Chairman Fascell was most complimentary with regard to [redacted] objective presentation of factual material and response to questioning, and his appreciation for Agency cooperation and assistance. In response to a question by Mr. Harrington as to whether it would be permissible within the Committee rule format to request information directly from the Agency, the Chairman observed that it was his understanding

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that the Agency had always been of assistance to individual members with regard to questions within their Committee responsibilities. As an aside after the meeting, the Chairman noted his personal dissatisfaction with the oversight system utilized by the House with regard to the Central Intelligence Agency. He feels it is much too restrictive and that other members, other than those on the oversight committee, are equally capable of dealing with such matters.

11. There is one followup item from the meeting: the question of the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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